

P24509.A09



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hidehiko OGAWA

Confirmation No.: 6078

Appl. No. : 10/767,725

Examiner: T. D. LEE

Filed : January 30, 2004

Group Art Unit: 2624

For : IMAGE DATA COMMUNICATION APPARATUS AND METHOD

**COMPLETION OF RECORD**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

Applicant is submitting this paper to make of record in the present application the issuance of a Canadian Office Action dated October 30, 2006, with respect to patent family member Canadian Patent Application No. 2,292,824, and U.S. Patent No. 5,742,763 which is cited therein. Copies of the Canadian Office Action and U.S. Patent No. 5,742,763 are enclosed herewith.

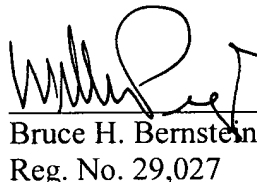
Applicant notes that European Patent Publication No. EP 0 801 492 was also cited in the Canadian Office Action. However, this document was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on April 1, 2004. Thus, a copy of this document is not provided herewith.

Applicant respectfully requests that the above-noted documents be placed of record in the file of the present application.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

December 6, 2006  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191  
{P24509 00097869.DOC}

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hidehiko OGAWA

  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

William Pieprz  
Reg. No. 33,630



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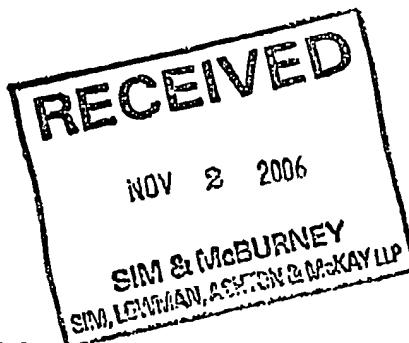
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Industry Canada  
www.cipo.gc.ca



October 30, 2006

**SIM & MCBURNEY**  
6th Floor  
330 University Avenue  
TORONTO Ontario  
M5G 1R7



Application No. : **2,292,824**  
Owner : PANASONIC COMMUNICATIONS CO., LTD.  
Title : **IMAGE DATA COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE AND METHOD**  
Classification : H04N 1/32 (2006.01)  
Your File No. : **9116-72MIS:II**  
Examiner : Gilbert Jean

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED OF A REQUISITION BY THE EXAMINER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION 30(2) OF THE PATENT RULES. IN ORDER TO AVOID ABANDONMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH 73(1)(A) OF THE PATENT ACT, A WRITTEN REPLY MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE ABOVE DATE.**

This application has been examined taking into account applicant's correspondence received in this office on June 30, 2005.

The number of claims in this application is 5.

The letter dated June 30, 2005 has failed to adequately address the issues raised in the first office action with regards to obviousness. In particular, the letter does not provide any convincing arguments as to why the alleged inventive features of claims 1 to 5 are not obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, the objections remain as follows:

**Reference re-applied**

European Patent Office Application  
801,492 a Oct. 15, 1997

H04N 1/00

Toyoda

A further search of the prior art has revealed the following:

**Reference applied**

United States Patent  
5,742,763 Apr. 21, 1998

G06F 13/00

Jones

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*Toyoda* discloses an electronic mail system connected to a network which includes a section for converting an image of a document surface into a document image data. The system comprises a section to convert the received image data into a received image data of a given facsimile format.

*Jones* discloses a message delivery system, for use with a communication network that delivers a message from a sender to a network. The delivery system can append sender information to the message.

### **Obviousness**

The subject matter of the present application relates to an image communication device and a method of communication, through which a recipient can identify a transmitter before opening a file attached to an E-mail when the recipient receives the E-mail.

*Toyoda* teaches an electronic mail system connected to a network where the analyzed character sequence indicates registration of a destination mail address, while providing a correspondence relation between the sender ID information and the destination mail address.

*Jones* teaches a computer-based communication network service and a system in which an entity is represented by a network presence associated with a handle identifier used an address.

In the last correspondence, it was argued that the references applied do not disclose setting the identification of the user into the mail message of the e-mail.

Claim 1 recites an image data communication apparatus connected to an image data source and to a network, the image data communication apparatus comprising:

- a memory configured to store information regarding an identification of a user of the image data communication apparatus.

*Toyoda* discloses an electronic mail system connected to a network that registers sender ID information (column 2, line 45).

- a controller configured to set the information regarding the identification of the user selected by the panel section into the mail message of the e-mail to which the image data is attached.

*Jones* discloses a computer-based communication network service and a delivery system that append sender's information to a message (column 2, lines 31 to 34).

Thus, claim 1 is obvious since it defines the technical features that are disclosed by *Toyoda* and *Jones*, namely, a memory configured to store information regarding an identification of a user of the image data communication apparatus, and a controller configured to set the information regarding the identification of the user selected by the panel section into the mail message of the e-mail.

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Claim 5, which is directed to the same subject matter as claim 1, is also found to be obvious.

Dependent claims 2 to 4, which further define the subject matter of claims 1 and 5, fail to introduce any inventive limitations and are also considered obvious.

Although *Toyoda* does not disclose a controller configured to set the information regarding the identification of the user selected by the panel section into the mail message of the e-mail, *Jones* discloses a computer-based communication network service and a delivery system that append sender's information to a message.

Therefore, claims 1 to 5 do not comply with section 28.3 of the *Patent Act*. The subject matter of these claims would have been obvious on the claim date to a person skilled in the art or science to which they pertain having regard to *Toyoda* and *Jones*, in light of the common knowledge disclosed by *Jones*.

In view of the foregoing defects, the applicant is requisitioned, under subsection 30(2) of the *Patent Rules*, to amend the application in order to comply with the *Patent Act* and the *Patent Rules* or to provide arguments as to why the application does comply.

Under section 34 of the *Patent Rules*, any amendment made in response to this requisition must be accompanied by a statement explaining the nature thereof, and how it corrects each of the above identified defects.

Gilbert Jean  
Patent Examiner  
(819) 934-5148

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